

**House File 2241 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2241

BY BYRNES

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act establishing requirements for school districts,  
2 area education agencies, postsecondary institutions, and  
3 the department of education relating to student testing  
4 and remediation services at the secondary level and the  
5 alignment of the secondary curricula with the curricula  
6 requirements of accredited postsecondary institutions.  
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.7, subsection 26, paragraph a,  
2 subparagraph (1), Code Supplement 2011, is amended to read as  
3 follows:

4 (1) The rules establishing high school graduation  
5 requirements shall authorize a school district or  
6 accredited nonpublic school to consider that any student  
7 who satisfactorily completes a high school-level unit of  
8 English or language arts, mathematics, science, or social  
9 studies has satisfactorily completed a unit of the high school  
10 graduation requirements for that area as specified in this  
11 lettered paragraph, and shall authorize the school district  
12 or accredited nonpublic school to issue high school credit  
13 for the unit to the student. By July 1, 2013, these rules  
14 shall also require school districts to administer compass, a  
15 computer-adaptive college placement test published by ACT,  
16 inc., to all students enrolled in grade eleven. The state  
17 board shall establish by rule English or language arts and  
18 mathematics proficiency scoring thresholds on the placement  
19 test for identifying students in need of academic remediation  
20 in English and mathematics. The scoring thresholds shall also  
21 be used by area education agencies and school districts to  
22 design and implement curriculum alignment activities that lead  
23 to better prepared high school graduates.

24 Sec. 2. Section 256.9, subsection 48, Code Supplement 2011,  
25 is amended to read as follows:

26 48. a. Develop and implement a comprehensive management  
27 information system designed for the purpose of establishing  
28 standardized electronic data collections and reporting  
29 protocols that facilitate compliance with state and federal  
30 reporting requirements, improve school-to-school and  
31 district-to-district information exchanges, and maintain the  
32 confidentiality of individual student and staff data. The  
33 system shall provide for the electronic transfer of individual  
34 student records between schools, districts, postsecondary  
35 institutions, and the department. The director may establish,

1 to the extent practicable, a uniform coding and reporting  
2 system, including a statewide uniform student identification  
3 system.

4 b. By July 1, 2013, collect, utilizing the statewide  
5 longitudinal data system and unique student identifiers,  
6 test data from school districts pursuant to section 279.60,  
7 subsection 2. Each institution of higher education governed  
8 by the state board of regents and each accredited private  
9 institution as defined in section 261.9 shall, by July 1, 2013,  
10 submit student academic performance data to the department if  
11 a student enrolled in the institution has a unique student  
12 identifier provided by the department. Data collected shall  
13 be shared with the student's school district and the area  
14 education agencies in which the school districts are located.  
15 With regard to students who have unique student identifiers  
16 provided by the department, the director shall collaborate with  
17 the postsecondary institutions, area education agencies, and  
18 school districts to reach the goal of decreasing the number of  
19 students who require postsecondary remediation services in the  
20 2012 academic year by twenty-five percent by the 2017 academic  
21 year.

22 Sec. 3. Section 273.2, subsection 8, Code Supplement 2011,  
23 is amended to read as follows:

24 8. The area education agency board shall collaborate  
25 with the department of education to provide a statewide  
26 infrastructure for educational data to create cost  
27 efficiencies, provide storage and disaster mitigation,  
28 and improve interconnectivity between schools, and school  
29 districts, and, by July 1, 2013, accredited postsecondary  
30 institutions. Efforts to improve interconnectivity after  
31 July 1, 2013, shall include but not be limited to the  
32 identification of deficiencies in school districts' English and  
33 mathematics coursework and curricula based on the assessment  
34 results submitted to the department of education's statewide  
35 longitudinal data system. In addition, the area education

1 agency boards shall work with the department to provide  
2 systemwide coordination in the implementation of the statewide  
3 longitudinal data system consistent with the federal American  
4 Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The area education  
5 agencies shall provide support to school districts' information  
6 technology infrastructure that is consistent with the statewide  
7 infrastructure for the educational data collaborative.

8 Sec. 4. Section 273.7A, Code 2011, is amended to read as  
9 follows:

10 **273.7A Services to school districts.**

11 1. The board of an area education agency may provide  
12 services to school districts located in the area education  
13 agency under contract with the school districts. These  
14 services may include, but are not limited to, superintendency  
15 services, personnel services, business management services,  
16 specialized maintenance services, curricula alignment and  
17 remediation services, and transportation services. In  
18 addition, the board of the area education agency may provide  
19 for furnishing expensive and specialized equipment for school  
20 districts. School districts shall pay to area education  
21 agencies the cost of providing the services.

22 2. The board of an area education agency may also provide  
23 services authorized to be performed by area education agencies  
24 to other area education agencies in this state and to provide a  
25 method of payment for these services.

26 3. a. Beginning July 1, 2012, area education agency 267  
27 shall establish a remediation services and curricula alignment  
28 pilot project designed to meet the requirements of paragraph  
29 "b". The services and curricula alignment strategies developed  
30 under the pilot project shall be implemented statewide by area  
31 education agencies by July 1, 2013. This paragraph is repealed  
32 July 1, 2015.

33 b. By July 1, 2013, the board of an area education agency  
34 shall make available to school districts located in the  
35 area education agency remediation services for students in

1 grades eleven and twelve, as well as activities and services  
2 designed to align school district curricula with postsecondary  
3 English and mathematics requirements and decrease the need  
4 for remedial coursework at the postsecondary level. The area  
5 education agency shall facilitate meetings and the delivery of  
6 information between the department of education, postsecondary  
7 public institutions, and school districts. The area education  
8 agency shall comply with all state and federal privacy laws in  
9 order to ensure the confidentiality and appropriate uses of  
10 information delivered pursuant to this subsection.

11 Sec. 5. Section 279.60, Code 2011, is amended to read as  
12 follows:

13 **279.60 Kindergarten assessment — access to data — reports.**

14 1. Each school district shall administer the dynamic  
15 indicators of basic early literacy skills kindergarten  
16 benchmark assessment or other kindergarten benchmark assessment  
17 adopted by the department of education in consultation with  
18 the early childhood Iowa state board to every kindergarten  
19 student enrolled in the district not later than the date  
20 specified in section 257.6, subsection 1. The school district  
21 shall also collect information from each parent, guardian,  
22 or legal custodian of a kindergarten student enrolled in the  
23 district, including but not limited to whether the student  
24 attended preschool, factors identified by the early childhood  
25 Iowa office pursuant to section 256I.5, and other demographic  
26 factors. Each school district shall report the results of  
27 the assessment and the preschool information collected to  
28 the department of education in the manner prescribed by the  
29 department not later than January 1 of that school year. The  
30 early childhood Iowa office in the department of management  
31 shall have access to the raw data. The department shall review  
32 the information submitted pursuant to this section and shall  
33 submit its findings and recommendations annually in a report to  
34 the governor, the general assembly, the early childhood Iowa  
35 state board, and the early childhood Iowa area boards.



1 college placement test published by ACT, inc., to all students  
2 enrolled in grade 11. The state board must also establish  
3 by rule English or language arts and mathematics proficiency  
4 scoring thresholds on the placement test for identifying  
5 students in need of academic remediation in English and  
6 mathematics. The scoring thresholds shall be used by AEAs and  
7 school districts to design and implement curriculum alignment  
8 activities that lead to better prepared high school graduates.

9 By July 1, 2013, the director of the department of education  
10 must collect, utilizing the statewide longitudinal data  
11 system and unique student identifiers, the compass test data  
12 from school districts. Each public and private accredited  
13 postsecondary institution must submit, by July 1, 2013, student  
14 academic performance data to the department if a student  
15 enrolled in the institution has a unique student identifier  
16 provided by the department. Data collected shall be shared  
17 with the student's school district and the AEAs in which the  
18 school districts are located. The director shall collaborate  
19 with postsecondary institutions and school districts to reach  
20 the goal of decreasing the number of students who require  
21 postsecondary remediation services in the 2012 academic year by  
22 25 percent by the 2017 academic year.

23 Area education agency boards are directed by statute  
24 to improve interconnectivity between schools and school  
25 districts, and the bill adds to this list, effective July 1,  
26 2013, accredited postsecondary education institutions. Such  
27 efforts, under the bill, must include but not be limited to the  
28 identification of deficiencies in school districts' English and  
29 mathematics coursework and curricula based on the assessment  
30 results submitted to the department's statewide longitudinal  
31 data system. The bill adds curricula alignment and remediation  
32 services to the list of services which AEAs may provide to the  
33 school districts located within their boundaries.

34 Beginning July 1, 2012, AEA 267 must establish a remediation  
35 services and curricula alignment pilot project designed to meet

1 the requirements of the bill. These services and curricula  
2 alignment strategies developed under the pilot project shall be  
3 implemented statewide by AEAs by July 1, 2013.

4 By July 1, 2013, each AEA board shall make available to  
5 school districts remediation services for students in grades  
6 11 and 12, as well as activities and services designed to  
7 align school district curricula with postsecondary English  
8 and mathematics requirements and decrease the need for  
9 remedial coursework at the postsecondary level. The AEA  
10 shall facilitate meetings and the delivery of information  
11 between the department, postsecondary public institutions,  
12 and school districts. The AEA must comply with all state and  
13 federal privacy laws in order to ensure the confidentiality and  
14 appropriate uses of student-related information.

15 By July 1, 2013, each school district shall include a  
16 student's compass test results in the annual report submitted  
17 to the student or the student's parent or guardian documenting  
18 the student's progress toward meeting the goal of successfully  
19 completing the core curriculum and high school graduation  
20 requirements, and shall provide a comparison between the  
21 student's scores and the scoring thresholds established by  
22 the state board. Each school district shall use the test  
23 results to identify students in need of academic remediation in  
24 English and mathematics and to design and implement curriculum  
25 alignment activities that lead to better prepared high school  
26 graduates.

27 This bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code  
28 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of  
29 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school  
30 district from state school foundation aid received by the  
31 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification  
32 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate  
33 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The  
34 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the  
35 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state

H.F. 2241

1 mandates included in the bill.